

CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL** **CONFIDENTIAL**  
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT  
 INFORMATION FROM  
 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO.

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY China  
 SUBJECT Economic - Agriculture, land reform

DATE OF INFORMATION 1950

HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspapers

DATE DIST. 30 Mar 1951.

WHERE PUBLISHED Peiping; Hankow; Shanghai

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE PUBLISHED 7 - 12 Dec 1950

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE Chinese

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REGULATIONS LET LANDLORDS FIT INTO ANOTHER CLASS;  
HUNAN LANDLORDS SABOTAGE LAND REFORM

Landlords who accept quietly the land-reform program and conduct themselves loyally for 5 years will be admitted into the class for which their abilities best fit them. An especially wicked Kiangsu landlord was recently executed after being condemned by a people's court attended by 2,000 persons. Hunan landlords are outstandingly recalcitrant toward the land-reform program and continue to sabotage it in many ways, destroying buildings, groves, and farm animals and equipment, and assassinating land-reform cadres.

A special directive has been issued by the Central and South China Military and Administrative Committee covering the procedure in the cases of landlords who have fled to other areas and have carried away items of movable property, particularly grain. In general, the regulations are concerned with effecting their arrest and return to their home areas.

DISCUSSES FUTURE OF COOPERATIVE LANDLORDS--- Peiping, Jen-min Jih-pao, 12 Dec 50

A handbook of propaganda instruction for land-reform cadres issued by the Chinese Communist Party states that the government has ruled that if landlords accept quietly the land allotments given their families in the land-distribution program and live entirely within the law, working to support themselves for 5 years, at this end of that time, they will be eligible for a change of status and may be admitted to the worker's class or some other class, according to the nature of their individual occupation. While no landlords will be permitted to live a parasitical existence as heretofore, they may carry on as farmers, if that is what they are best fitted for, or they may engage in cultural activities if they have such abilities.

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REPORTS EXECUTION OF WICKED LANDLORD -- Shanghai, Chieh-fang Jih-pao, 10 Dec 50

In a mass meeting, 2,000 people condemned to death Li Ho-shang, a landlord of Wu-Hsien, in Kiangsu, who had for over 40 years headed an armed band which acted as the agent for other landlords in forcible collection of rent. In the course of his career, he had slaughtered many people and carried off innumerable items of personal property.

After confirmation of the verdict by the hsien authorities and approval by the Special Administrative District authorities, Li Ho-shang was executed in the presence of 1,000 people.

LANDLORDS CONTINUE OPPOSITION TO LAND REFORM IN HUNAN -- Hankow, Ch'ang-chiang Jih-pao, 12 Dec 50

Landlords in many hsien of Hunan have been carrying on illegal and disruptive practices in opposition to the land-reform program, both before it began and since it was carried out.

They have burned their buildings, slaughtered their farm animals, cut down their trees, etc., to prevent their distribution to the people. In one ch'u in Ch'ang-sha Hsien, within 2 months time, over 150 work animals were slaughtered.

In some places after the land-reform cadres had completed the distribution of landlords' property and left the area, certain landlords began to demand the return of buildings, work animals, and implements. Some even burned the buildings that had been distributed to the peasants. In two hsien of Ch'ang-te Hsien, out of 53 landlords, 46 of them had engaged in disruptive practices such as disposing of land, animals, implements, and grain. In another hsien, 27 landlords secretly disposed of 2,400 mou [one mou is 1/6 acre] of land. Another landlord chopped down more than 1,000 trees. Other landlords connived with KMT special agents to assassinate cadres and progressive peasants, and created disorder by arousing the rabble and backward peasants to attack cadres. In some places, they stirred up strife between villages, which led to bloodshed, in order to break down the unity of the masses.

Much of this irregularity has come about because some cadres have tried to follow a peaceful policy in land reform, and have failed to arouse properly the fighting spirit of the masses before undertaking expropriation and distribution of the landlord's property.

ISSUES DIRECTIVE ON LANDLORDS WHO FLED -- Hankow, Hupeh Jih-pao, 7 Dec 50

The Central and South China Military and Administrative Committee has issued the following directive concerning how to deal with landlords who have fled to the cities to hide or to defeat the purposes of land reform and have failed to register their lands:

1. Absentee landlords who have illegally and willfully failed to register their lands as required, upon a verified accusation to the hsien authorities or people's court and concurrence of the higher authorities, shall be dealt with as follows:

a. A landlord who has illegally taken refuge in the hsien city or other city of his own hsien, upon approval of the hsien authorities, may be apprehended by the Public Safety Bureau of the hsien and turned over to the local peasants association or people's court for action.

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b. In case a landlord illegally flees to a place outside his own hsien, but within the province, the hsien authorities may send a representative armed with an official request to the provincial authorities. The provincial authorities shall provide the representative with the necessary documents to present to the municipal or hsien authorities where the renegade is located; whereupon, the local public safety authorities shall arrest the culprit and give him to the custody of the representative of his local hsien to be returned there.

c. In case a landlord has fled to another province, but within the territory of the Central and South China Regional District, the local hsien government may report to the Special Administrative District and Provincial authorities. After approval by the provincial authorities and issuance of a letter of introduction, the local hsien authorities may send an agent carrying the letter of introduction from the provincial government directly to the city or hsien where the culprit is to contact the local authorities. If the local authorities there agree, the local police authorities shall arrest the culprit and turn him over to the agent of his local hsien for return to that hsien.

In case the culprit's home hsien and the hsien to which he has fled in the neighboring province are adjacent to each other, the procedure will be as outlined in paragraph "a" above.

d. In case a landlord has fled to a city in another Regional District (such as East China, North China or the Northwest) the local representative, carrying a letter of introduction from the provincial authorities of the culprit's home province, may contact the local authorities where the culprit is residing. Upon concurrence, the local authorities shall make the arrest and send the prisoner to the place where he is wanted.

In case of adjacent hsiens or provinces, the procedure designated under paragraph "a" above may be followed.

2. The authorities of the city or hsien to which a recalcitrant landlord has fled should render all aid to those who come to seek his apprehension when they are furnished with the necessary letters of introduction. There should be no delay in making the necessary investigation, to ascertain if the facts agree with the allegations, and in making the arrest. In case there is a difference of opinion on the part of the local authorities, their views should be speedily transmitted for consideration to the authorities who have sent the agent. Only after the two jurisdictions are in agreement shall further steps be taken.

3. When the culprit has been returned to his home area, the local people's authorities or people's court shall conduct a public trial according to law and publicize the verdict. In case the culprit had taken refuge in a city the results of the trial shall be publicized in that city so that there may be no suspicion of foul play.

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